

Possible Diploma Options

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CENTER FOR EDUCATION
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Guiding Questions

- * What states had diploma structures that warranted further investigation?
- * What areas are there discrepancies between Indiana's General Diploma and other states' "Standard" Diploma options?
- * Are there unintended consequences of a new diploma system?
- * How could differences in diploma structures affect diploma content?
- * Are there diploma options that highlight a student's body of work (badges, seals, etc.)?

States to Consider

- * Two states seemed to garner much of the attention from the last meeting:
 - * Maryland's one diploma option
 - * Kentucky's General and Pre-College options
- * How can we use these two state models to create a possible diploma system in Indiana?

Maryland Structure and Content

- * Maryland has one diploma option with two paths for “other” credit

Content	Credits
English	4
Math	3
Science	3
Social Studies	3
Fine Arts	1
PE	.5
Health	.5
Technology Education	1
Program Choice	2 credits of foreign language or 2 credits of advanced technology ed and 3 credits in electives Or 4 credits by successfully completing a State-approved career & technology program and 1 elective

Maryland's Summary of Differences Compared to Indiana

- * Compared to Indiana's General Diploma there is 1 more year's worth of credit required for math, science, and social studies.
- * A technology education class is required.
 - * There are standards created for this course and the Advanced Technology Education course. Technology Literacy is also part of the elementary and middle school programs as well.
- * Students must earn 5 credits in a chosen a "program choice" path.

Diploma Option # 1

Content	Credits
English	8
Math	*6 (could potentially have multiple math pathways)
Science	6 (Bio, Chem/Phys/ICP/Earth Science(?) , and 1 more)
Social Studies	6 (US, World, Econ/Gov't)
PE	2
Health	1
College and Career Planning	2 (College and Career Planning (freshman year)/Personal Finance)
Fine Arts	1
Program Choice	4 World Language or 4 Computer Science/Programming or 6 CTE
General Electives	2 or 4
Total	40

Kentucky Structure and Content

- * Two diploma options: General and Pre-College Curriculum.
- * Credit Requirements:
 - * General has 22 credit requirement
 - * Pre-College has 24 credit requirement.

Content	General	Pre-College
English	4	4
Math	*3	*3
Social Studies	3	3
Science	3	3
Health	.5	.5
PE	.5	.5
Fine Arts	1	1
Language	0	2
Electives	7	7
Total	22	24

*Enrollment in math or QR course all 4 years is required

Kentucky's Summary of Differences Compared to Indiana

- * Compared to Indiana's General Diploma there is 1 more year's worth of credit required for math, science, and social studies.

Diploma Option #2

Content	Standard	College Preparatory
English	8	8
Math	*6 (could potentially have multiple math pathways)	8 (Alg I, Geometry, Alg II + 2 credits)
Science	6 (Bio, Chem/Phys/ICP/Earth Science(?) , and 1 more)	6 (Bio, Chem/Phys/ICP/Earth Science(?) , and 1 more)
Social Studies	6 (US, World, Econ/Gov't)	6 (US, World, Econ/Gov't)
PE	2	2
Health	1	1
College and Career Planning	2	2
Fine Arts	1	2
Program Choice	6 (CTE Pathway Completion or Computer Science)	6 or 8 (World Language/Computer Science)
General Electives	2	2 or 4
Total	40	45

Virginia

- * Virginia has 3 diploma options:
- * 2 options similar to Kentucky's "General" and "Pre-College" options plus a "Modified" option for students with special needs.
- * One thing that Virginia does differently than Indiana and the other states that have been discussed is offer Seals of Achievement across their diploma options.

Virginia Diploma Seals

- * **Governor's Seal** – Awarded to students who complete the requirements for an Advanced Studies Diploma with an average grade of "B" or better, and successfully complete college-level coursework that will earn the student at least nine transferable college credits.
- * **Board of Education Seal** – Awarded to students who complete the requirements for a Standard Diploma or Advanced Studies Diploma with an average grade of "A" beginning with the ninth-grade class of 2006-2007 and beyond.
- * **Board of Education's Career & Technical Education Seal** – Awarded to students who:
 - * earn a Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma and complete a prescribed sequence of courses in a career and technical education concentration or specialization that they choose and maintain a "B" or better average in those courses OR pass an examination or an occupational competency assessment in a career and technical education concentration or specialization that confers certification or occupational competency credential from a recognized industry, trade or professional association OR acquire a professional license in that career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- * **Board of Education's Advanced Mathematics & Technology Seal** – Awarded to students who earn either a Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma and satisfy all of the mathematics requirements for the Advanced Studies Diploma (four units of credit including Algebra II; two verified units of credit) with a "B" average or better; and either pass an examination in a career and technical education field that confers certification from a recognized industry, or trade or professional association OR acquire a professional license in a career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia OR pass an examination approved by the board that confers college-level credit in a technology or computer science area.
- * **Board of Education's Excellence in Civics Education Seal** – Awarded to students who meet each of the following four criteria:
 - * Satisfy the requirement to earn a Modified Standard Diploma, a Standard Diploma or an Advanced Studies Diploma
 - * Complete Virginia & United States History and Virginia & United States Government courses with a grade of "B" or higher
 - * Complete 50 hours of voluntary participation in community service or extracurricular activities, such as volunteering for a charitable or religious organization that provides community services and participate in school-sponsored extracurricular activities that have a civics focus. Any student who enlists in the United States military prior to graduation will be deemed to have met this community service requirement **and** have good attendance and no disciplinary infractions as determined by local school board policies.
- * **Local school divisions may award other diploma seals or awards for exceptional academic, CTE, citizenship or other exemplary performance in accordance with criteria defined by the local school board. The design, production and use of those seals is the responsibility of the local school boards awarding the seal.**

Diploma Option #3 with Badge Options

Content	Credits
English	8
Math	*6 (could potentially have multiple math pathways)
Science	6 (Bio, Chem/Phys/ICP/Earth Science(?) , and 1 more)
Social Studies	6 (US, World, Econ/Gov't)
PE	2
Health	1
College and Career Planning	2 (College and Career Planning (freshman year)/Personal Finance)
Fine Arts	1
**Program Choice	6
General Electives	2 or 4
Total	40

Diploma Option #3 Potential Badges

Potential Badge options:

- * **College Preparatory Badge:** Completion of 4 World Language or Computer Science credits + 2 additional math credits
- * **CTE Completion Badges:** Completion of CTE Pathway = badge in that Career Cluster
- * Currently offered career clusters:
 - * Agriculture
 - * Architecture and Construction
 - * Arts, AV Technology, and Communication
 - * Business and Marketing
 - * Education and Training
 - * Health Science
 - * Hospitality and Human Services
 - * Information Technology
 - * Manufacturing
 - * Public Safety
 - * STEM
 - * Transportation
- * **Key questions:** How many badge options should be made available? What additional requirements should be included in badge options (credits in specified area, GPA, etc.)? Can other badge options be created at local level? Is the badge option a diploma consideration or an e-transcript consideration?

Current Diploma Attainment Rates of Indiana High School Graduates (2012 – 2013)*

- * General Diploma: 16.3%
 - * Core 40: 49.8%
 - * Core 40 Honors (Academic and Technical Honors): 33.9%
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- * *Most recent statewide Compass graduation data is from 2012 – 2013 school year.

Questions to Consider When Thinking about Unintended Consequences

- * As a result of 16.3% of Indiana's students in 2012 – 2013 graduating with a General Diploma, several questions arise when considering any increases to the level of rigor to the General Diploma:
- * What gaps exist between students graduating with a General Diploma and students graduating with a Core 40 Diploma?
- * How will increasing the requirements of the General Diploma effect those students receiving the General Diploma?
- * How will increasing the requirements of the General Diploma effect school districts, the courses they offer, and the educators they employ?

Help in Determining Next Steps

- * The Education Commission of the States is putting together current diploma requirements for all states.
- * The Education Commission of the States is putting together an updated list of math requirements by state, including quantitative reasoning information.
- * The Education Commission of the States is compiling a list of states that do/do not use Carnegie units to determine credits for graduation requirements.
- * The Department of Education is putting together course completion information for each of the current diploma types so “gaps” between current General Diploma students and the Core 40 can be investigated further.
- * The Department of Education has been asked for course offering and enrollment data by school to help investigate exactly what schools are offering and how many students are enrolled in those programs.